U.S. Multistakeholder Effort for Certification of E-Waste Recyclers

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RECYCLER CERTIFICATION

- INCREASING INTEREST IN RECYCLER CERTIFICATION
 - MANY STAKEHOLDER GROUPS INTERESTED
 - OECD ESM GUIDELINES PROMOTE CERTIFICATION
- SOME RECYCLING INDUSTRY GROUPS HAVE OR ARE DEVELOPING PROGRAMS
- EPA BELIEVES SUCH PROGRAMS ARE VALUABLE & ARE ALTERNATIVES TO REGULATION
- EPA DOES NOT PLAN TO "CERTIFY" OR "APPROVE" RECYCLERS

CERTIFICATION TO "RESPONSIBLE RECYCLER" (R2) PRACTICES

- EPA SPONSORING MULTISTAKEHOLDER EFFORT FOR DEVELOPMENT OF "R2" PRACTICES
 - INVOLVES EPA, OSHA, STATES, MANUFACTURERS, RECYCLERS, ENVIRONMENTAL NGOS
- RECYCLERS WILL VOLUNTEER TO BE CERTIFIED AS TO CONFORMANCE WITH THE R2 PRACTICES
- NATURE OF CERTIFYING ORGANIZATIONS STILL UNCLEAR
- COMPLETE DEVELOPMENT BY SUMMER 2008

PROGRESS

- A GREAT DEAL OF EFFORT OVER THE LAST 2 YEARS
 - ABOUT 20 VERSIONS DRAFTED OF THE "R2"
 PRACTICES
 - MULTISTAKEHOLDER & WIDER PUBLIC INPUT
 - RECENTLY COMPLETED REVIEW OF THE "R2" PRACTICES DOCUMENT BY EXPERIENCED AUDITORS
 - REVISING DOCUMENT BASED ON AUDITOR REVIEW

NEXT STEPS

- CONTINUING TO IMPROVE R2 PRACTICES DOCUMENT
- IDENTIFYING RECYCLERS WHO WILL VOLUNTEER TO "FIELD TEST" (short audit) THE DOCUMENT
- EXPECT TO CONDUCT FIELD TESTING IN JANUARY 2008
- FOLLOWING FIELD TESTING, THE R2 PRACTICES DOCUMENT WILL BE MODIFIED

OVERARCHING PRINCIPLES

- VOLUNTARY PROGRAM
- PRIMARY FOCUS IS ON HUMAN HEALTH & THE ENVIRONMENT
- ELECTRONICS RECYCLERS MUST COMPLY WITH EXISTING FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL & INTERNATIONAL REQUIREMENTS
- EPA WILL NOT DIRECT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAM
 - MULTISTAKEHOLDER "R2" PRACTICES
 - USE OF "THIRD-PARTY" AUDITORS AND CERTIFYING BODIES

ESSENTIAL CONCEPTS OF "R2" PRACTICES

- REUSE & RECYCLING ARE PREFERRED OVER DISPOSAL
- WORKER & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
- DOWNSTREAM DUE DILIGENCE (including export) FOR PRIORITY MATERIALS
 - Batteries, mercury lamps & devices, CRTs, circuit boards, & possibly toner
- NEED FOR ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS (EMS)
- DATA SECURITY
- COMPLIANCE WITH ALL LAWS & RULES

OTHER AREAS ADDRESSED BY "R2" PRACTICES

- RECORDKEEPING
- DIFFERENTIATING REUSE FROM RECYCLING
- CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO USE OF SMELTERS
- CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO USE OF DISPOSAL FACILITIES
- TRANSPORT
- INSURANCE
- RECYCLING FACILITY CLOSURE & FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY
- FACILITY SECURITY

DRAFT "R2" EXPORT PROVISIONS for RECYCLER CERTIFICATION

- Recycler will need to obtain documentation from importing and transit countries of legality of import of certain materials by the foreign facility
 - Batteries, mercury lamps & devices, CRTs, circuit boards, & possibly toner
- Recycler can request EPA to help obtain that documentation

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